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Black Panther Party

The **Black Panther Party**, originally known as the **Black Panther Party for Self-Defense**, was a revolutionary socialist organization founded in 1966 by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale in Oakland, California. The party was established to challenge police brutality against the African American community and to promote Black empowerment and self-defense.

Key Points

- **Origins**: Newton and Seale founded the party in response to the assassination of Malcolm X and the killing of an unarmed Black teenager by police in San Francisco. They drew inspiration from Marxist ideology and the Black Power movement.

- **Activities**: The Black Panthers organized armed citizen patrols to monitor police activities and protect Black neighborhoods. They also implemented social programs, such as free breakfast programs for children and health clinics.

- **Ten-Point Program**: The party outlined its goals and demands in a Ten-Point Program, which called for an end to police brutality, employment for African Americans, and justice for all.

- **Decline**: The party faced significant challenges, including internal conflicts, violent confrontations with law enforcement, and FBI counterintelligence operations aimed at undermining their efforts. By the early 1980s, the party had largely disbanded.

The Black Panther Party left a lasting legacy in the fight for civil rights and social justice, inspiring future generations to continue the struggle for equality.